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EXAMINER

PATEL, CHIRAG R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2141

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/085,679	PERKINS ET AL.	
Examiner	Chirag R. Patel	Art Unit	2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3, 4, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claims 3 and 15: Claim 3 recites the limitation "first association data" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

As per claim 4, it is unclear to the meaning of web in line 9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hind et al. (US 2002/0143933).

As per claims 1 and 13, Hind et al. discloses a method for coordinating sessions, comprising: providing a session interface having instructions to send association data; and identifying activity related to a previously provided session interface utilizing the association data. ([0033],[0049]) The “cookie jar” stores the user preferences which are the cookies for the sessions.

As per claims 2, 6, 14 and 18, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising performing a specified task in relation to the session interface in accordance with the identified activity. ([0049]) The electronic commerce transactions such as browsing catalog, selecting merchandise, and placing an order represents a specified task.

As per claims 3 and 15, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the first association data includes a client identifier and a session identifier associated with the session interface, and wherein the act of identifying comprises:

providing the session identifier associated with the session interface, identifying client identifier included in the association data; ([0054], Figure 6 item 605) The “clickstream cookie” is transmitted and is incorporated in the URL token. URL token is extracted to identify the association data.

identifying other association data containing that client identifier;

([0046],[0052],[0053], Figure 3C item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information.

identifying the session identifier included in the other association data; ([0046], [0052], [0053], Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier.

identifying activity related to the previously provided session interface associated with the identified session identifier included in the other association data.

([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator. ([0033],[0049]) The server must remember information throughout the scope of the transaction and retrieves logged records to reconstruct a user's navigational experience during the series of related messages.

As per claims 4 and 16, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the act of providing comprises providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page; ([0007]) and wherein the act of identifying comprises:

providing the URL to identify the association data containing the cookie; ([0044], [0053], Figure 3c, item 305) An additional field is added to the URL token to carry information used for clickstream data collection.

identifying other association data containing the cookie; ([0044]) Transaction-specific quality of service information is transmitted and communicated across the network.

from the identified association data, Identifying a second URL for a previously provided web; ([0042]) The sticky routing token contains embedded URLs and allows for a second URL.

identifying activity related to the previously provided web page utilizing the second URL. ([0042])

As per claims 5 and 17, Hind et al. discloses a method for coordinating sessions, comprising:

providing a first session interface having instructions to send first association data; sending the first association data; providing a second session interface having instructions to send second association data; sending the second association data; ([0049]) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allows for multiple session interfaces, such as browsing catalog, selecting merchandise, and placing an order represents a specified task and sent the preferences/profiles to the server; and

utilizing the first and second association data to identify activity related to the first session interface. ([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator.

As per claims 7 and 19, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 5, wherein the first association data includes a client identifier and a first session identifier associated with the first session interface and the second association data includes the client identifier and a second session identifier associated with the second session interface; ([0046],[0052],[0053], Figure 3C item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information , [0052], [0053], Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier. ([0049], Figure 4) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allow for multiple session interfaces and sending association data. The collection of clickstream log entries represents shows more than 1 entry and the 1st and 2nd asoocation data is inherent to this table.

and wherein the acts of sending the first and second association data include adding the first association data as an entry to an association table and adding the second association data and an entry to the association table. ([0060], Figure 4) The collection of clickstream log entries represents the association table.

As per claims 8 and 20, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 7, wherein the act of utilizing comprises: identifying the client identifier in an entry in the association table containing the session identifier associated with the second session interface; identifying other entries in the association table containing that client identifier; (Figure 4 items 405,410) identifying from those entries the session identifier associated with the first session interface; and (Figure 4 items 415)

using the session identifier associated with the first session interface to identify activity related to the first session interface. ([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator.

As per claims 9 and 21, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 8, wherein the first session interface is a first web page, the second session interface is a second web page; ([0050]) Markup language document serves as the web page; the client identifier is a cookie, ([0054], Figure 3C item 345, Figure 6 item 605) The “clickstream cookie”, which is the client identifier is transmitted and is incorporated in the URL token; the session identifier associated with the first web page is an URL for that web page, and the session identifier associated with the second web page is an URL for the second web page, ([0046], [0052], [0053], Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier; and wherein:

the act of identifying the client identifier comprises providing the URL for the second session interface and querying the association table for the cookie in an entry containing the provided URL; ([0046],[0060])

the act of identifying other entries comprises identifying other entries containing the cookie; ([0046],[0052],[0053], Figure 3C item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information.

the act of identifying from those entries comprises identifying the entry containing

the URL for the first session interface; ([0052], [0053], Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier for the session interface, and

the act of using the session identifier, comprises using the URL for the first session interface to identify activity relating to the first session interface. ([0060], Figure 4 item 415)

As per claims 10 and 22, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 5, wherein the acts of providing the first and second session interfaces comprise providing a framed web page having a first frame for displaying the first session interface and a second frame for displaying the second session interface; ([0045])

wherein the act of sending the first association data comprises sending a cookie and a first URL for the first session interface; and wherein the act of sending the second association data comprises sending the cookie and a second URL for the second session interface. ([0046])

As per claims 11 and 23, Hind et al. discloses the method of claim 10, further comprising saving the cookie and the first URL as one entry in an association table and saving the cookie and the second URL as another entry in the association table; (Figure 4 item 400) and wherein the act of utilizing the first and second association data comprises:

providing the URL for the second session interface and querying the association table for the cookie in an entry containing the provided URL; ([0046],[0060])

identifying other entries containing the cookie; ([0046],[0052],[0053], Figure 3C

item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information.

from those entries, identifying the entry containing the first URL; and identifying activity relating to the first session interface using the first URL. ([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator.

As per claims 12 and 24, Hind et al. discloses a session coordinating method, comprising:

providing a first web page having instructions to request a web bug; requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the first web page; providing a second web page having instructions to request the web bug; requesting the web bug sending the cookie and an URL for the second web page; ([0007],[0049]) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allows for multiple session interfaces, such as browsing catalog, selecting merchandise, and placing an order represents a specified task and sent the preferences/profiles to the server;

saving the cookie and the URL for the first web page as an entry in an association table; saving the cookie and the URL for the second web page as an entry in the association table; ([0060], Figure 4) The collection of clickstream log entries represents the association table.

providing the URL for the second web page, querying the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL for the second web page; ([0046],[0060]) identifying other entries in the association table containing that cookie; ([0044]) Transaction-specific quality of service information is transmitted and communicated across the network, from those entries, identifying the entry containing the URL for the first web page; and identifying activity relating to the first web page using that URL. ([0042])

As per claims 25, 27 and 30, Hind et al. discloses a system for coordinating sessions, comprising:

a first responder operable to provide a first session interface having instructions to send association data containing a client identifier and a first session identifier for the first session interface; a second responder operable to provide a second session interface having instructions to send association data containing the client identifier and a second session identifier for the second session interface; ([0049]) The first and second responder are inherent to and located on any of a multitude of servers. ([0051], Figure 2) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allows for multiple session interfaces, such as browsing catalog, selecting merchandise, and placing an order represents a specified task and sent the preferences/profiles to the server; ([0046], [0052] [0053]) Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier. ([0046],[0052],[0053]) Figure 3C item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information.

an association server operable to receive the association data, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table; ([0060], Figure 4)

an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable to access and provide association data from the association table according to a received query; ([0060], Figure 4)

an association service in communication with the second responder and the association server and operable to provide the session identifier and to query the association server for a session identifier for the first session interface. ([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator. ([0033],[0049]) The server must remember information throughout the scope of the transaction and retrieves logged records to reconstruct a user's navigational experience during the series of related messages.

As per claims 26 and 28, Hind et al. discloses the system of claim 27, wherein: the first responder is further operable to provide the first session interface in the form of a first web page; the second responder is further operable to provide the second session interface in the form of a second web page; ([0049]) The first and second responder are inherent to and located on any of a multitude of servers. ([0051], Figure 2) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allows for multiple session interfaces, such as browsing catalog, selecting merchandise, and placing an

order represents a specified task and sent the preferences/profiles to the server;

([0050]) Markup language document serves as the web page

the client identifier is a cookie, the first session identifier is a first URL for the first web page, and the second session identifier is a second URL for the second web page; ([0046], [0052] [0053]) Figure 3C items 305, 310); URL is referred to as the session identifier. ([0046],[0052],[0053]) Figure 3C item 345) Added fields carry quality of service information. The client identifier is a cookie, ([0054], Figure 3C item 345, Figure 6 item 605) The “clickstream cookie”, which is the client identifier is transmitted and is incorporated in the URL token;

the association server is further operable to save the cookie and the first URL, when received, as an entry in the association table and save the cookie and the second URL, when received, as another entry in the association table; ([0049], Figure 4) The client makes multiple transactions and therefore allow for multiple session interfaces and sending association data.

the association service is further operable to provide the second URL and query the association service for the first URL; ([0042]) The sticky routing token contains embedded URLs and allows for a second URL. ([0060]) A log entry containing a clickstream cookie is created whenever the node containing the cookie jar creates a new URL token. Site analyzer relates the other URL-style log entries back to this entry's correlator.

the association table interface is further operable to identify the entry in the association table containing the second URL, identify the cookie in that entry, locate

another entry containing the same cookie, and return the first URL from that located entry to the association service. ([0060], Figure 4 items 405,410,415,420)

As per claim 29, please see the discussion under claims 27 and 28 as they relate to the same subject matter.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Davis et al. (US 5,796,952) discloses a method and apparatus for tracking client interaction with a network resource and creating client profiles and resource database. Angeles (US 2002/0128925) discloses a system and method for tracking and reporting online activity across a plurality of clients and servers. Greene et al. (US 2002/0143861) discloses a method and apparatus for managing state information in a network data processing system. Lee et al. (US 6,466,970) discloses collecting and analyzing information about content requested in a network environment. Reynolds (US 6,848,000) discloses improved handling of client state objects.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chirag R. Patel whose telephone number is (571)272-7966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30AM to 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia, can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER